

CITY OF DAHLONEGA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES

The Dahlonega City Council met in regular session on Monday, June 3, 2013 at City Hall. Members present were Bruce Hoffman, Ralph Prescott, Gerald Lord, Terry Peters and Johnny Ariemma. Sam Norton was not present. Also present was City Manager Ron Thomas and City Attorney Doug Parks. Mayor Gary McCullough called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The prayer was led by Ralph Prescott and the Pledge to the American Flag was led by Gerald Lord.

AGENDA APPROVAL:

Mayor Gary McCullough asked for a motion to approve the revised agenda. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Prescott, seconded by Councilman Peters. Mayor McCullough asked for all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously.

CITIZENS:

Mayor Gary McCullough informed that Mr. Miguel Quiroz has applied for a consumption on premises alcohol license for Don Pollo restaurant. Mayor McCullough asked for comments from City Clerk Lou Stewart. Ms. Stewart informed that all paperwork was in order with no issues. Mayor McCullough asked for a motion to approve the license. A motion to approve the license was made by Councilman Lord, seconded by Councilman Hoffman. Mayor McCullough asked for any discussion, hearing none, he asked for all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES:

Mayor Gary McCullough asked for a motion to approve the minutes of May 6, 2013. A motion to approve the minutes of May 6, 2013 was made by Councilman Lord, seconded by Councilman Peters. Mayor McCullough asked for any corrections or additions, hearing none, he asked for all in favor to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Councilman Ariemma thanked Finance Director Kimberly Stafford for the new format of the financial statements. After further discussion, he requested that an additional column be added to show the month to month percentages from this year compared to last year. He informed that if Council agreed, he did not feel the graphs were necessary. Councilman Peters informed that too much information will not be useful and suggested a variance column from the budget might be more helpful, if done with a more condensed area. Councilman Hoffman questioned if the total expenditures under public safety included inmate housing and officers for municipal court. Ms. Stafford informed that those type of expenditures were under municipal court and felt that the Sheriff contract could be some of the expense under public safety. She further informed that she would send Councilman Hoffman the breakdown of expenses in the public safety budget.

Councilman Prescott questioned if the Council needed to ratify the decision of the Historic Preservation Commission concerning the demolition of the house on Main Street that was purchased by Mr. Tony Owens. Mayor McCullough informed that it was not necessary. Councilman Ariemma informed that the downside is the HPC has the authority to allow demolition of a historical building without any more input. Councilman Peters informed that upon HPC approval, there is a fifteen (15) day objection period that the decision can be appealed and remanded back to HPC. At this time, Planning Director Chris Head informed Council that the structure had vinyl siding and other items that made HPC determined there were no historical significance to the structure.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS:

City Manager Ron Thomas informed Council that he had ordered their laptops and was expecting them to be delivered by the end of the week. He further informed that once they arrive he will need to load the software therefore; they will be sent out to Council the following week.

MAYOR COMMENTS:

Mayor Gary McCullough informed Council that he was requesting approval of a fifteen (15) minute parking sign to be placed on North Park Street. Mayor McCullough informed that he had requested Planning Director Chris Head to send letters to all businesses located on North Park. He further informed that he had received only one response however; they were in favor of the sign. The Mayor informed he felt the hours of compliance should be from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on all fifteen (15) minute parking signs. Councilman Ariemma stated he agreed with the hours but felt this should not be enforced on the weekends. Councilman Lord agreed and requested that the signs state 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Monday thru Friday. After further discussion, Mayor McCullough asked for a motion of approval. Councilman Prescott made a motion to approve the installation of a fifteen (15) minute parking sign on North Park Street, to be determined by the City Engineer and all fifteen (15) minute parking signs will be from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday thru Friday, seconded by Councilman Hoffman. Mayor McCullough asked for all in favor to say aye, all opposed, like sign motion carried unanimously.

CITY ATTORNEY COMMENTS:

City Attorney Doug Parks informed that a request was made by the University of North Georgia to update existing ordinances in which referenced their former name of North Georgia College and State University. Mayor McCullough asked for a motion of approval for Ordinance 2013-1 which covers this name change. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Lord, seconded by Councilman Ariemma. Mayor McCullough asked for any discussion. Councilman Peters questioned if this ordinance could also be a blanket to cover any documents that referenced the College when it was North Georgia College. Mr. Parks informed that he will include the North Georgia College name in the ordinance also. Mayor McCullough asked for all in favor of the motion to say aye, all opposed like sign, motion carried unanimously.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilman Lord informed that he wanted to publicly thank Councilman Hoffman for his great direction of the Memorial Day Ceremony. Mayor McCullough stated he agreed and also thanked Councilman Hoffman for his efforts for such a successful Ceremony.

Mayor McCullough entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 p.m. A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Lord, seconded by Councilman Prescott and approved by all members present.

APPROVED BY ME THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2013.

Gary McCullough, Mayor

Attest:

Lou Stewart, City Clerk